



What you need to know about the Coggins Test and Yellowstone National Park

The Disease and its Detection

Equine infectious anemia (EIA) is caused by a viral infection that affects the immune system of equine species. Equine species are horses, burros, and mules, but not llamas. EIA is most commonly transmitted via blood during feedings of large biting flies, especially horseflies and deer flies. There is currently no treatment or vaccine available for EIA, and once infected, equine stock

remain persistently infected with EIA for life. Infected animals may sometimes appear normal, but they pose a threat to other equine species. The Coggins test is the test for diagnosis of Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA). Even though the intermountain west is not a hot spot for the disease, outbreaks in this area are reported every year.

State and Federal Control Programs

All states and the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), a federal agency, require that all equines being moved interstate (between states) must have been tested using the Coggins test for EIA with a negative result within 12 months. The EIA laboratory test describ-

ing the equine, signed by an accredited veterinarian must accompany the animal. Crossing state lines, whether on federal or state land, without documentation of a current negative Coggins test is a violation of these regulations.

Entering Yellowstone National Park

With Yellowstone being a destination for numerous stock parties from the tri-state area as well as other states efforts to curtail the spread of EIA are being emphasized. Regardless of whether state lines

are crossed visitors to Yellowstone with stock must possess documentation of a negative Coggins test for each equine performed within the last 12 months.

Backcountry Travel

Individuals wishing to stay overnight in the backcountry must obtain a backcountry permit. **Regardless of whether your travel passes through an entrance station all Yellowstone visitors with stock must submit valid proof of a negative Coggins test performed within the last 12 months for each animal.** This documentation must be submitted before the permit is issued. For information regarding day or overnight trips in the backcountry, please call the Backcountry Office at (307) 344-2160.

